

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Montgomery County Man Charged With Possessing Child Pornography**

Springfield, Illinois -- Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that a Montgomery county, Illinois man has been charged with possession of child pornography. Elisha Pasdeck, age 31, of Nokomis, appeared in federal court in Springfield this afternoon. U.S. Magistrate Judge Byron Cudmore ordered home confinement for Pasdeck to include electronic monitoring and removal of Internet service from his residence. Other restrictions include restricted telephone access, no contact with minors under age 18, and monitoring by U.S. Probation officers.

The affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint charging Pasdeck with possession of child pornography alleges that agents with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement executed a federal search warrant at Pasdeck's Nokomis residence on June 1, 2005. According to the affidavit, agents seized three computers and related computer equipment and found several thousand images of child pornography and movies as well as correspondence between Pasdeck and a minor-aged male from Canada.

If convicted, the offense of possession of child pornography carries a maximum sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

The charge is the result of an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement with assistance from the Nokomis Police Department and the Canadian Border Services Agency. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John Childress.

Members of the public are reminded that a complaint is merely an accusation; the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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